	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	09/620,474	FUJIWARA, MAKOTO
Notice of Allowability	Examiner	Art Unit
	Ayal I Sharon	2123
The MAILING DATE of this communication appearance All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RI of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313	(OR REMAINS) CLOSED in th or other appropriate communic IGHTS. This application is sub	is application. If not included cation will be mailed in due course. THIS
1. \boxtimes This communication is responsive to <u>Amendment filed 10/8</u>	<u>8/2004</u> .	
2. The allowed claim(s) is/are 7-27.		
3. \boxtimes The drawings filed on <u>06 November 2000</u> are accepted by	the Examiner.	
 4. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority una) All b) Some* c) None of the: Certified copies of the priority documents have Certified copies of the priority documents have Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)). * Certified copies not received: 	been received. been received in Application N	No
Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONM THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.		reply complying with the requirements
5. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be subminformal PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which give		
 CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must (a) including changes required by the Notice of Draftspers hereto or 2) to Paper No./Mail Date including changes required by the attached Examiner's Paper No./Mail Date Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1, each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the strength of the sheet in the	on's Patent Drawing Review (s Amendment / Comment or in .84(c)) should be written on the c	the Office action of drawings in the front (not the back) of
 DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT I 		
Attachment(s) 1. Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 2. Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 3. Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/0 Paper No./Mail Date 4. Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material	6. ☐ Interview Sum Paper No./Ma 8), 7. ☐ Examiner's Am	il Date

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DETAILED ACTION

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Introduction

- Claims 7-27 of U.S. Application 09/620,474, originally filed on 07/20/00 are presented for examination. The application has a foreign priority date of 07/30/1999.
- 2. In Applicants' recent Amendment after RCE, filed 10/8/2004, Claims 1-6 have been previously cancelled in response to a restriction, and claims 7, 9, 12, and 14-20 are currently amended. Claims 7, 9, 12, 14-17, and 20 are the current independent claims.

Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance

- 3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance.
- 4. In the previous Office Action, dated 6/16/2004, Claims 14-16 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim. Applicants have amended the claims and are now in an allowable format.
- 5. In addition, in the previous Office Action, dated 6/16/2004, Examiner reiterated the comments in the interview summary (dated 3/17/2004, conducted with Examiner Fred Ferris), that the teachings in Figures 6 and 7 represent subject matter not taught in the cited prior art, and are not claimed in the present claims.

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Moreover, Examiner also reminded the Applicants that the interview summary mentioned that the scope of the then-current claims applied also to networks.

6. In the most recent amendment, filed on 10/8/2004, the Applicants have amended the remaining independent claims 7, 9, 12, 17 and 20 in a manner that addresses these issues. The Applicants persuasively argue (see amendment, pp.11-12. Emphasis is from the original text):

Nonetheless, in order to further clarify the distinction between the present invention and cited prior art whereby large scale networks are not a subject of the present invention, the independent claims have been amended as suggested in the Interview Summary to embody a method of designing an interface of a semiconductor integrated circuit which executes plural applications.

As shown in Fig.7 of Applicant's drawings and described in the corresponding description, the present invention can analyze a performance of an interface through operation simulation arranged on a processing time base. That is, the designing method of the present invention can operate *actual* simulation such that applications are operated along a time sequence such that applications are operated along a time sequence and the performance is evaluated time-by-time (see Fig.7). It should be noted that each of the applications relates to a specific function as recited in independent claims 7, 9, 12, 17 and 20, with exemplary functions described, for example, in Fig.6 and page 17, line 22 – page 18, line 9 of Applicant's specification.

Turning to the cited prior art, Mahmud_1 is merely a theoretical paper. The disclosed "theoretical" simulation only uses probability and a predetermined period as a variation value. After the predetermined period has passed, the disclosed process simply calculates the bandwidth. Accordingly, Mahmud_1 fails to disclose or suggest an operation simulation such that applications which relate to specific functions are operated sequentially along a time sequence.

Furthermore, Mahmud_1 is completely silent as to plural applications where each of the plural applications relates to a specific function (again, Mahmud_1 only uses probabilities and a whole predetermined period). In this regard, Amadori also is completely silent as to time sequential

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operation simulation and therefore does not obviate the deficiencies of Mahmud_1.

7. Examiner has found Applicants arguments regarding the amended independent claims 7, 9, 12, 17 and 20 as being persuasive. These claims, and their dependent claims, are allowable over the cited prior art.

8. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Correspondence Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ayal I. Sharon whose telephone number is (571) 272-3714. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Thursday, and the first Friday of a biweek, 8:30 am – 5:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kevin Teska can be reached at (571) 272-3716.

Any response to this office action should be faxed to (703) 872-9306, or mailed to:

USPTO P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

or hand carried to:

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USPTO Customer Service Window Randolph Building 401 Dulany Street Alexandria, VA 22314

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Tech Center 2100 Receptionist, whose telephone number is (571) 272-2100.

Ayal I. Sharon

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March 18, 2005

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